



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA

NATIONAL BREED SURVEY RULES AND PROCEDURE FOR DOGS IN AMERICA

General

The GSDCA Working Dog Programs breed survey has been developed to help better serve the needs of the United States breeders, exhibitors and competitors and is recognized by the GSDCA WDP for all breed show and working disciplines offered by our organization in the United States. The breed survey season is from January 1st to December 31st. The GSDCA WDPs' breed survey is a companion program to the existing Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) program with the exception of the modifications as follows.

- GSDCA WDP Breed Survey events are open to German Shepherds only. Dogs with AKC or any other WUSV or FCI organization that issues Limited Registration are not eligible to participate.
- A dog owned by a person who is not in good standing with the GSDCA or the SV cannot participate
- Breed Surveys are for "stock coated" and "long stock coated with undercoat" only.
- Dogs must be a minimum of two years of age within the calendar year of the Breed Survey
- Dogs must be identifiable by tattoo or microchip
- Females in season must be reported to the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister, who shall regulate their participation
- Pregnant females can only participate up until their 42nd day of pregnancy. Nursing females may not participate before the 42nd day after delivery
- All participants must sign a waiver holding the GSDCA, GSDCA-WDP, the hosting club and property owners harmless for all injuries to person and property prior to participating in the breed show.
- All handlers must sign a waiver holding the GSDCA, GSDCA-WDP, the hosting club and property owners harmless for all injuries to person and property prior to participating in the breed show.

The breed survey is the highest breed qualification. It emphasizes the dogs that are recommended for breeding. Dogs that comply with the breed standard will be included in this class.

- Size, weight and anatomy comply with standard, or minor discrepancies in the anatomy
- The entire behavior is self-confident, good-natured and the dog has earned a rating of "pronounced" or "present" during the TSB test
- Measures within 1cm below or above the size standard
- Perfect, full set of teeth; double premolars 1 are permitted.

Also permitted are missing of two premolar 1; or one premolar 1 and one incisor; or one premolar 2; or slight level bite of the middle incisors

Documents Required for Entry

- Proof of the AD, BH, and at least one level of the IGP, IPO titles awarded prior to 1/1/2019, SCH titles must be awarded by a GSDCA WDP, SV, SVF, WUSV, FCI, USCA or GSSDC Judge. A minimum of 80 points in phase C and a rating of either pronounced (“a”) or sufficient (“vh”) is required.
- Dogs six years of age or older are exempt from the AD requirement
- Dogs with proof of the HGH title awarded by SV, SVF or WUSV Judge, the AD, BH and IGP, or SchH requirement does not apply
- Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized “HD” approved hip certification of “a1”, “a2” or “a3” of the SV or equivalent.
- Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized “ED” approved elbow certification of “a1” or “a2” of the SV or equivalent.
- Proof of a minimum Breed Show evaluation of “Good” awarded by an SV, GSDCA WDP, USCA, WUSV or SVF Judge.

GSDCA SVP REGIONAL CLUBS HOSTING A BREED SURVEY

1) Prerequisites

- GSDCA WDP Breed Survey Master or an SV Körmeister will be eligible to judge these events. In the case of using an SV Judge then a release (richterfreigabe) from the SV will be required.
- In the event that a Club uses an SV koermister the following will apply: Clubs are no longer able to contact Körmeister judges prior to event, the SV breed warden will be responsible for the selection. After the release, has been granted the club may contact the judge to make final arrangements for event, travel etc.
- A large field with suitable space and sanitary facilities
- Experienced assistants sufficient to run the event
- A Breed Survey Secretary

2) Equipment

- Shelter for the Breed Survey Master Körmeister and breed survey secretary
- An SV-breed survey measuring device (Körmass)
- Universal Microchip reader
- Metric tape measure
- Metric scale
- Two blank pistols (6mm) with sufficient blank ammunition.
- Identification numbers to be worn by the dog handlers.

Required Paperwork

- Copied documents of the originals will need to be sent to the GSDCA office: Certified pedigree from AKC 4-generation, SV, or FCI-recognized kennel club in the dog’s country of birth. *(Exception: Canadian registration, pedigrees and scorebooks are accepted at all GSDCA events).* Scorebook if not on the pedigree. ALL GSDCA WDP, WUSV, FCI, GSSDC, USCA scorebooks will be accepted.

Entries for the Breed Survey

Entries for the breed survey may be submitted up to the beginning of the breed survey or as the hosting GSDCA WDP Regional Club chooses. The number of dogs permitted per breed survey day is 50. If more than 50 dogs are entered, another day or half day on the same weekend must be added.

The following original documents must be presented to the breed survey secretary on the day of the survey.

- Certified pedigree from AKC 4-generation, SV, or FCI-recognized kennel club in the dog's country of birth. (*Exception: Canadian registration, pedigrees and scorebooks are accepted at all GSDCA events*)
- Scorebook if not on the pedigree.

Breed Survey Temperament Test

The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister shall conduct a temperament test for each dog. The test may be conducted during the entire course of the breed survey. The dog must present a sound temperament; it must be uninhibited, self-confident, good-natured and exhibit steady nerves.

At least two shots must be fired from a blank pistol (6mm) at a distance of at least 15 paces. The dog must remain indifferent during the test.

Protection Work

The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister judges the protection work. A GSDCA Qualified Helper shall assist during the protection work. A SV Teaching Helper may also do the protection work with prior approval of the GSDCA Board of Directors.

Implementation

Attack:

- 1) The handler reports to the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister with the dog on the leash
- 2) As instructed by the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister the handler takes position at a marked spot 25 meters (approximately 82 feet) in front of the blind, stands with the dog in basic position and unleashes his dog
- 3) The leash must be placed around the handler's shoulder or in a pocket
- 4) As instructed by the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister the handler walks with his unleashed dog toward the helper's blind. The dog must stay closely at heel until the handler reaches a marked spot located 7 meters (approximately 23 feet) in front of the blind. Repeated verbal commands are permitted. Touching of the dog is not permitted. If handler and heeling dog reach this marked spot, the helper, as instructed by the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister, will perform an attack while making threatening noises. If the dog breaks the heel before reaching the marked spot, the helper shall not attack. The handler has two more opportunities to reach the 7-meter marking with his dog at heel. Should the dog fail to heel to the 7-meter marking in all three attempts the dog will not be allowed to continue in the breed survey. It will be noted that the dog was "DISQUALIFIED, OUT OF CONTROL". The dog can be presented again for breed survey with a maximum of three attempts within the same calendar year

- 6) The dog must counter the attack immediately, confidently and energetically with hard and full grips
- 7) When the dog has gripped the sleeve the helper raises the soft-stick and hits the dog 2 times on thighs, sides, or in the area of the wither
- 8) The handler may encourage the dog verbally to counter the attack
- 9) The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister signals the helper to stop the attack and the helper then stands motionless
- 10) The dog must release the sleeve independently or upon the command "aus/out" and must then guard the helper intensively
- 11) The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister then instructs the handler to approach his dog
- 12) The handler puts the leash on his dog and is instructed by the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister to step into an assigned blind.

Countering an Attack from the Watching Position:

- 1) The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister instructs the handler to step out of the blind and then move to the center line position
- 2) The dog is now unleashed and held by the collar
- 3) The dog must maintain this position until he is sent to counter the attack with the command "voran/go on"
- 4) The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister signals the helper to step out of the blind, which is located at a distance of approximately 70 to 80 paces from the handler and to walk across the field at a normal pace
- 5) The handler verbally commands the helper to stop by shouting "stop/stand still"
- 6) The helper ignores this command and performs a frontal attack on the handler and the dog
- 7) Immediately following the attack on the handler, the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister instructs the handler to counter the attack and send the dog
- 8) The handler immediately sends his dog forward with the verbal command "voran/go on" and stands still
- 9) The dog must grip the sleeve with drive, energetically and with a hard and full grip in order to counter the attack
- 10) Once the dog has a grip on the sleeve the helper must – after a short pressure phase – stop the counter-attack, without hitting the dog with the soft-stick, when the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister instructs him to do so
- 11) The dog must release the sleeve independently or when given the command "aus/out" and must then guard the helper intensively
- 12) The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister instructs the handler to approach his dog directly at a normal pace and then put the dog on leash
- 13) The handler then reports to the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister with his dog on the leash and leaves the field

Identity Control:

Before leaving the field the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister must check the tattoo or microchip number on the dog.

Scoring

Releasing:

- 1) The dog must let go of the sleeve independently after the attack is stopped
- 2) The handler may give the first command "aus/out" independently after a suitable time
- 3) If the dog does not release the sleeve after the first command the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister instructs the handler to give up to two additional commands to the dog to release the sleeve
- 4) The handler must stand still when he gives the command "aus/out" and must not influence the dog
- 5) If the dog's name is used it shall be regarded as a verbal command to release the sleeve
- 6) If the dog releases the sleeve independently when the handler approaches, it can also be regarded as releasing (outing). However, the handler must be at least 5 paces away from the dog
- 7) If the dog releases independently or by means of a verbal command during the "attack" and counters the attack from the watch position, the designation "out" is entered in the report
- 8) If the dog fails to out even in just one phase the dog will not be allowed to continue in the breed survey. It will be noted that the dog was "DISQUALIFIED, OUT OF CONTROL, NO OUT". The dog can be presented again for the breed survey with a maximum of three attempts within the same calendar year. It is not possible to present a dog more than three times per calendar year, regardless if the breed survey was stopped due to lack of obedience or not releasing
- 9) During the entire protection work the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister shall remain in the vicinity of the handler and observe the dog's and handler's behavior intensively until the handler goes to pick up the dog

Scoring the Drive, Self-Confidence & Resilience:

The overall rating of the protection work is scored as "pronounced" (a), "present" (vh) and "insufficient" (ng).

Pronounced (a): Self-confident, intense, goal-oriented and secure grip and holding, no negative behavior during soft-stick hits, close and attentive watching in the guarding phases.

Present (vh): Deficiencies in self-confidence, goal-oriented behavior, in grip and stick behavior, as well as in the guarding phases.

Insufficient (ng): Lacking self-confidence, limitations with respect to hardness and disinterest in the helper.

Measurements and Weight Controls

The may Breed Survey Master or Koermister may assign the breed survey secretary or an appointed assistant to may weigh the dogs and take measurements for chest depth and chest circumference and measure the height at the withers.

Stand for Examination and Evaluation of Movement

The Breed Survey Master or Körmeister writes the breed survey report during this examination.

Breed Survey Conformation

After completing the survey for each dog, the owners of the dogs receive a temporary breed survey receipt or Bescheinigung that has been signed by the Breed Survey Master or Körmeister. This contains the breed survey results and proof that the required documents have been forwarded to the GSDCA WDP Office.

Dogs Not Suitable for a Breed Survey

A breed survey is not possible if the following deficiencies prevail:

- 1) Major anatomical deficiencies
- 2) Deviances of more than 1 cm from the size standard
- 3) Faulty testicles
- 4) Faulty teeth:
Missing 1 premolar 3 or
2 incisors or
1 premolar 2 and 1 incisor or
1 premolar 2 and 1 premolar 1 or
2 premolar 2.
- 5) Dogs with considerable pigment deficiencies
- 6) Dogs with long coats or long stock coats without undercoat

Term of Breed Survey

- 1) A new breed survey or a breed survey following a lapse is valid for two years; the dog must be presented for a renewal of this breed survey in the second year.
- 2) A Breed survey renewal is valid for a lifetime.

Terminating the Breed Survey

- 1) A dog's breed survey may be terminated for cause and that decision will be made through the prescribed bylaws, rules and regulations of the GSDCA.
- 2) If a dog with a breed survey rating is not presented for renewal the breed survey shall end at the year's end.

Breed Survey Certificate and Breed Survey Register

The GSDCA WDP Office will issue breed survey certificates for dogs having passed the breed survey and maintain the breed survey register.